

Charter
Defense Advisory Committee on Women in the Services

1. Committee's Official Designation: The committee will be known as the Defense Advisory Committee on Women in the Services ("the Committee").
2. Authority: The Secretary of Defense, in accordance with the Federal Advisory Committee Act (FACA) of 1972 (5 U.S.C., Appendix, as amended) and 41 C.F.R. § 102-3.50(d), established this discretionary Committee.
3. Objectives and Scope of Activities: The Committee shall provide advice and recommendations on matters relating to women in the Armed Forces of the United States.
4. Description of Duties: The Committee shall provide the Secretary of Defense and the Deputy Secretary of Defense, through the Under Secretary of Defense for Personnel and Readiness (USD(P&R)), independent advice and recommendations on matters and policies relating to women in the Armed Forces of the United States.
5. Agency or Official to Whom the Committee Reports: The Committee reports to the Secretary of Defense and/or the Deputy Secretary of Defense, through the USD(P&R). The USD(P&R), pursuant to Department of Defense (DoD) policy, may act upon the Committee's advice and recommendations.
6. Support: The DoD, through the Office of the USD(P&R), shall support the Committee and shall ensure compliance with requirements of the FACA, the Government in the Sunshine Act of 1976 (5 U.S.C. § 552b, as amended) ("the Sunshine Act"), governing Federal statutes and regulations, and established DoD policies and procedures.
7. Estimated Annual Operating Costs and Staff Years: The estimated annual operating cost, to include travel, meetings, and contract support, is approximately \$860,000.00. The estimated annual personnel cost to the DoD is 4.0 full-time equivalents.
8. Designated Federal Officer: The Committee's Designated Federal Officer (DFO), pursuant to DoD policy, shall be a full-time or permanent part-time DoD officer or employee, designated in accordance with established DoD policies and procedures.

The Committee's DFO is required to be in attendance at all meetings of the Committee and any subcommittees for the entire duration of each and every meeting. However, in the absence of the Committee's DFO, a properly approved Alternate DFO duly designated to the Committee according to established DoD policies and procedures, must attend the entire duration of all of the Committee or subcommittee meetings.

The DFO, or the Alternate DFO, calls all Committee and subcommittee meetings; prepares and approves all meeting agendas; and adjourns any meeting when the DFO, or the Alternate DFO, determines adjournment to be in the public interest or required by governing regulations or DoD policies and procedures.

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9. Estimated Number and Frequency of Meetings: The Committee meets at the call of the Committee's DFO, in consultation with the Committee's Chair. The estimated number of Committee meetings is four per year.
10. Duration: The need for this advisory function is on a continuing basis; however, this charter is subject to renewal every two years.
11. Termination: The Committee shall terminate upon completion of its mission or two years from the date this charter is filed, whichever is sooner, unless the Secretary of Defense renews its charter.
12. Membership and Designation: The Committee shall be composed of no more than 20 members who are appointed in accordance with DoD policies and procedures and who have experience with the military or with women's workforce issues. The Secretary of Defense or the Deputy Secretary of Defense may authorize the appointment of the Director of the Center for Women Veterans for the Department of Veterans Affairs to serve as a non-voting, ex-officio regular government employee (RGE) member, who participates in the Committee's deliberations. He or she will not count toward the Committee's total membership or to determine whether a quorum exists.

The appointment of Committee members will be authorized by the Secretary of Defense or the Deputy Secretary of Defense and administratively certified by the USD(P&R), as the Sponsor, for a term of service of one-to-four years, with annual renewals, in accordance with DoD policies and procedures. Members of the Committee who are not full-time or permanent part-time Federal officers or employees will be appointed as experts or consultants pursuant to 5 U.S.C. § 3109 to serve as special government employee (SGE) members. Committee members who are full-time or permanent part-time Federal officers or employees will be appointed pursuant to 41 C.F.R. § 102-3.130(a) to serve as RGE members. No member, unless authorized by the Secretary of Defense or the Deputy Secretary of Defense, may serve more than two consecutive terms of service on the Committee, to include its subcommittees, or serve on more than two DoD federal advisory committees at one time.

Consistent with Deputy Secretary of Defense policy, the USD(P&R) may appoint the Committee's Chair and Vice-Chair from among the membership previously authorized by the Secretary of Defense or Deputy Secretary of Defense and in doing so, shall determine the term of service for each, which shall not exceed the member's approved term of service.

All members of the Committee are appointed to provide advice on the basis of their best judgment without representing any particular points of view and in a manner that is free from conflict of interest.

Except for reimbursement of official Committee-related travel and per diem, Committee members serve without compensation.

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13. Subcommittees: The DoD, when necessary and consistent with the Committee's mission and DoD policies and procedures, may establish subcommittees, task forces, or working groups to support the Committee. Establishment of subcommittees will be based upon a written determination, to include terms of reference, by the Secretary of Defense, the Deputy Secretary of Defense, or the USD(P&R), as the Committee's Sponsor.

Such subcommittees will not work independently of the Committee and shall report all of their recommendations and advice solely to the Committee for full and open deliberation and discussion. Subcommittees, task forces, or working groups have no authority to make decisions and recommendations, verbally or in writing, on behalf of the Committee. No subcommittee or any of its members can update or report, verbally or in writing, on behalf of the Committee, directly to the DoD or any Federal officers or employees. If a majority of Committee members are appointed to a particular subcommittee, then that subcommittee may be required to operate pursuant to the same notice and openness requirements of FACA which govern the Committee's operations.

Pursuant to Secretary of Defense policy, the USD(P&R) is authorized to administratively certify the appointment of subcommittee members if the Secretary of Defense or the Deputy Secretary of Defense has previously authorized the individual's appointment to the Committee or another DoD advisory committee. If the Secretary of Defense or the Deputy Secretary of Defense has not previously authorized the appointment of the individual to the Committee or another DoD advisory committee, then the individual's subcommittee appointment must first be authorized by the Secretary of Defense or the Deputy Secretary of Defense and subsequently administratively certified by the USD(P&R).

Subcommittee members, with the approval of the Secretary of Defense, will be appointed for a term of service of one-to-four years, subject to annual renewals; however, no member shall serve more than two consecutive terms of service on the subcommittee, without Secretary of Defense or Deputy Secretary of Defense authorization. Subcommittee members, if not full-time or part-time Federal officers or employees, will be appointed as experts or consultants pursuant to 5 U.S.C. § 3109 to serve as SGE members. Subcommittee members who are full-time or permanent part-time Federal officers or employees will be appointed pursuant to 41 C.F.R. § 102-3.130(a) to serve as RGE members. Individuals considered for appointment to any subcommittee of the Committee may come from the Committee itself or from new nominees, as recommended by the USD(P&R) and based upon the subject matter under consideration.

Consistent with Deputy Secretary of Defense policy, the USD(P&R) may appoint the subcommittee's Chair from among the membership previously authorized by the Secretary of Defense or Deputy Secretary of Defense and in doing so, shall determine the term of service, which shall not exceed the member's approved term of service.

Each subcommittee member, based upon his or her individual professional experience, provides his or her best judgment on the matters before the Committee, and he or she does so in a manner that is free from conflict of interest.

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With the exception of reimbursement for travel and per diem as it pertains to official travel related to the Committee or its subcommittees, subcommittee members shall serve without compensation.

All subcommittees operate under the provisions of the FACA, the Sunshine Act, governing Federal statutes and regulations, and established DoD policies and procedures.

14. Recordkeeping: The records of the Committee and its subcommittees shall be handled in accordance with General Records Schedule 6.2, Federal Advisory Committee Records, or other approved agency records disposition schedule, as well as the appropriate DoD policies and procedures. These records will be available for public inspection and copying, subject to the Freedom of Information Act of 1966 (5 U.S.C. § 552, as amended).
15. Filing Date: April 22, 2016